Job Pack

Regional Strategic Development Planning Manager

Uchelgais Gogledd Cymru
Ambition North Wales

ambitionnorth.wales

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For further information about this role, please contact:



Alwen Williams
Chief Executive

jobs@ambitionnorth.wales

An exciting time to join the team

We're delighted that you're considering joining the Ambition North Wales team. We are a team of passionate and enthusiastic individuals who are proud to be involved in developing the North Wales economy.

As a Corporate Joint Committee, we have statutory responsibilities for the Regional Transport Plan and the Strategic Development Plan, alongside non-statutory responsibilities for Economic Well-being. This work includes the North Wales Growth Deal, the Flintshire and Wrexham Investment Zone, and the Regional Skills Partnership.

Ambition North Wales is a strong partnership, working on behalf of North Wales to deliver against a future vision for economic prosperity. The Ambition North Wales Team was initially established to deliver the Growth Deal, and now has the wider remit of being the Corporate Joint Committee for North Wales. The team support the regional ambitions for a stronger, more resilient and sustainable future economy.

Our ambition moving forward is to attract Investment into North Wales and achieve a more prosperous future for everyone that lives and works here. Our aim is to create new highly-paid jobs, attract investment and ultimately build a more vibrant, sustainable and resilient economy in our communities, for young people and for future generations to come.

We work closely as a team and we have developed a set of values that underpin how we work and what we expect from others. We are ambitious, we empower and support each other to succeed, we have integrity and do as we say we will and we respect and value people and their perspectives as we shape a great future for North Wales. We do hope you will consider applying for this position and hopefully join us on this journey.



Cllr. Mark Pritchard

Chair
North Wales Corporate
Joint Committee



Alwen Williams

Chief Executive
Ambition North Wales

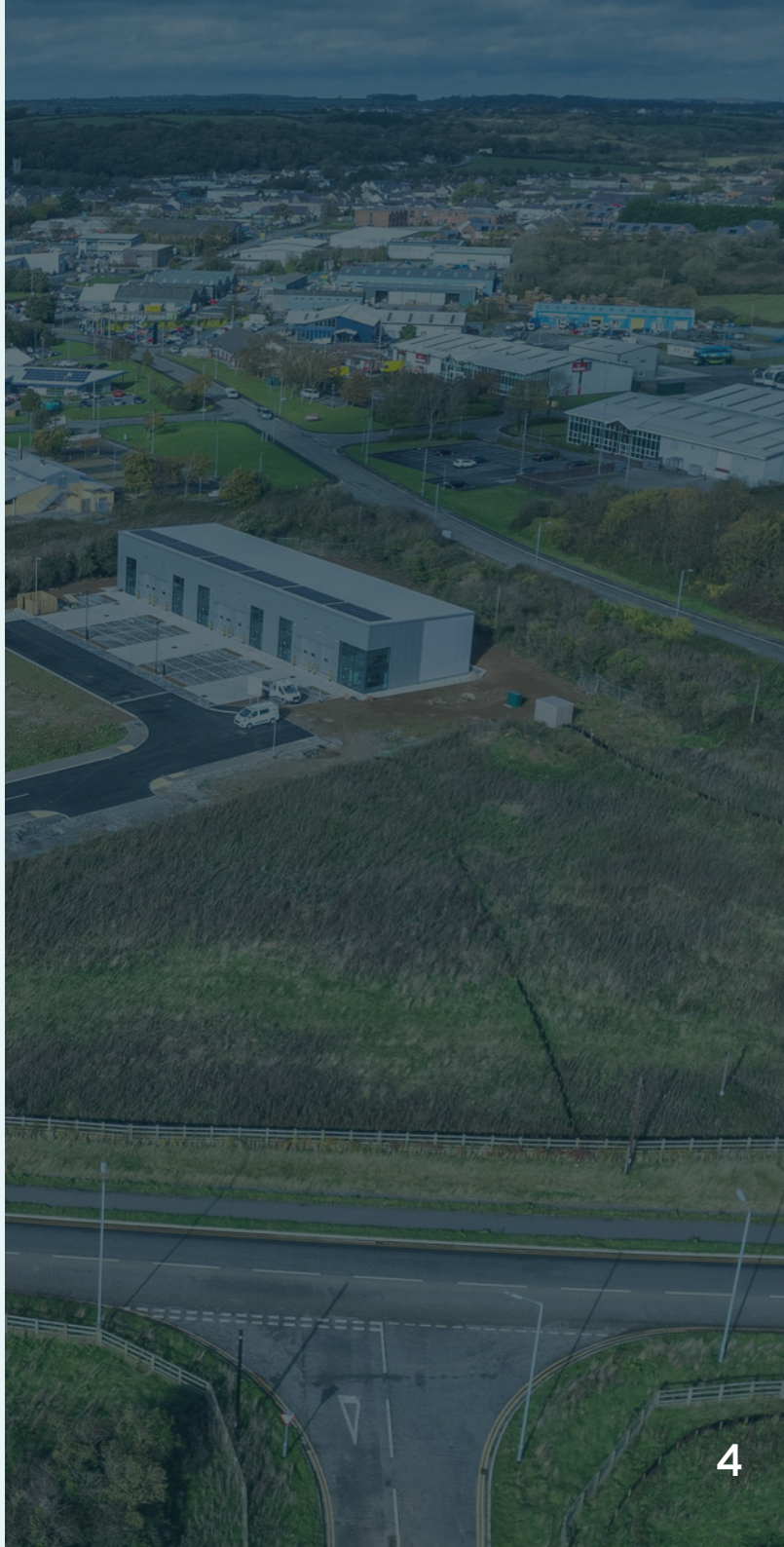
About the role

Regional Strategic Development Planning Manager

As Regional Strategic Development Planning Manager, you will provide strategic leadership for the preparation and delivery of the Strategic Development Plan, ensuring it supports the region's economic vision and aligns with wider transport, investment and economic strategies. You will manage the SDP Delivery Agreement programme, coordinate the regional evidence base, commission and oversee specialist support, and provide expert planning advice to Ambition North Wales and its partners.

You will lead a small, high-performing team and work closely with Welsh Government, local authorities, elected Members, neighbouring regions and other regional and national stakeholders. The role requires a confident communicator who can build trusted partnerships, influence decision-makers and guide complex programmes through effective governance, consultation and delivery.

We are looking for an experienced planning professional with significant expertise in planning policy and development plan preparation, strong programme and stakeholder-management skills, and a sound understanding of the North Wales region. Professional membership is desirable. An understanding of the importance of the Welsh language and a willingness to develop Welsh-language skills are essential.



Job Description

Purpose of the role

- Strategic leadership of the statutory duty to develop, prepare and deliver the Strategic Development Plan (SDP) for the North Wales Corporate Joint Committee (CJC) in line with the region's vision for Economic Well-being.
- Management of the SDP Delivery Agreement programme and ensure its outputs, milestones and reporting requirements are co-ordinated, monitored and achieved to the prescribed timetable on behalf of the CJC.
- Co-ordinate the integration of other CJC and regional plans and strategies with the SDP.
- To support the establishment and effective operation of the Strategic Planning team and to provide expert planning advice and support to the wider functions and programmes of Ambition North Wales.

Salary	**£61,961 - £65,361**
Hours	**up to 37 hours per week***
Contract	**Permanent**
Location	**Llandudno Junction (hybrid with home working)**

* The role is full-time, however we will consider flexible working requests for the right candidate.

Core Team Responsibilities

- Responsible for embodying the values and behaviours of Ambition North Wales.
- Collective responsibility as part of the team to deliver on the priorities of Ambition North Wales.
- Responsible for supporting colleagues and team members to deliver on the priorities of Ambition North Wales.
- Act as am ambassador for Ambition North Wales and the region.



Role Specific Responsibilities

1.Strategic Development Plan

- Lead the co-ordination, development, delivery and ongoing programme management of the Strategic Development Plan so that the CJC has a clear, evidence-led plan that is deliverable and aligned to agreed priorities and corporate objectives.
- Lead, support and performance manage the Strategic Development Plan (SDP) officer team (including up to two direct reports) so that SDP activity is delivered to time, to quality and with clear ownership of actions.
- Lead on the development of innovative and creative approaches to CJC planning policy development and the identification of locations for future growth
- Commission, procure and manage consultancy and third-party suppliers so that specialist inputs are secured, deliverables are met, value for money is achieved, and activity remains compliant with public procurement regulations and best practice.
- Manage and monitor the SDP development grant from Welsh Government and the CJC revenue budget for SDP preparation (£0.6m p.a.), ensuring robust budget control, compliance with grant conditions, and timely, accurate reporting.
- Oversee the development of an integrated evidence base to support SDP production and decision-making and that can also support other CJC policies and strategies, such as the Regional Transport Plan and Regional Economic Investment Plan.
- Act as the regional interface for the Strategic Planning Sub-committee, working with Portfolio Holder Members and Local Planning Authorities to maintain momentum and secure timely direction and decisions, and co-ordinate with Local Plan preparation.
- Ensure strategic alignment between the SDP, the Regional Transport Plan (RTP), Economic Investment, and other relevant local, regional and national strategies so that plans and programmes are coherent and mutually reinforcing.

2.Governance, Accountability & Compliance

- Maintain trustworthiness and compliance and good governance by working with the CJC statutory officers (CEO, Monitoring Officer and Section 151 Officer) as required so that legal, procedural and policy requirements are met and risks are escalated appropriately.
- Co-ordinate the preparation of reports for the Corporate Joint Committee, its sub-committees, Welsh Government, partners and stakeholders so that performance, progress and issues are communicated clearly and decisions are well supported.
- Act as a trusted expert and advisor in providing planning advice and support across the CJC, including to specific projects within programmes, so that planning considerations are identified early and delivery is supported.
- Undertake other duties commensurate with the role to support delivery of organisational priorities.
- Ensure compliance with policy and legislation such as Future Wales: the National Plan, Planning Policy Wales, the Development Plans Manual, and relevant Planning Acts, regulations and guidance.
- Work in accordance with Welsh Government guidance (including Regional Transport Fund requirements) and agreed regional governance arrangements.
- Handle information securely and in line with data protection, confidentiality and information governance requirements.
- Work in line with organisational policies relating to health and safety, equality and diversity, and safeguarding (where applicable).

Role Specific Responsibilities

3.Stakeholder & Partnership Engagement

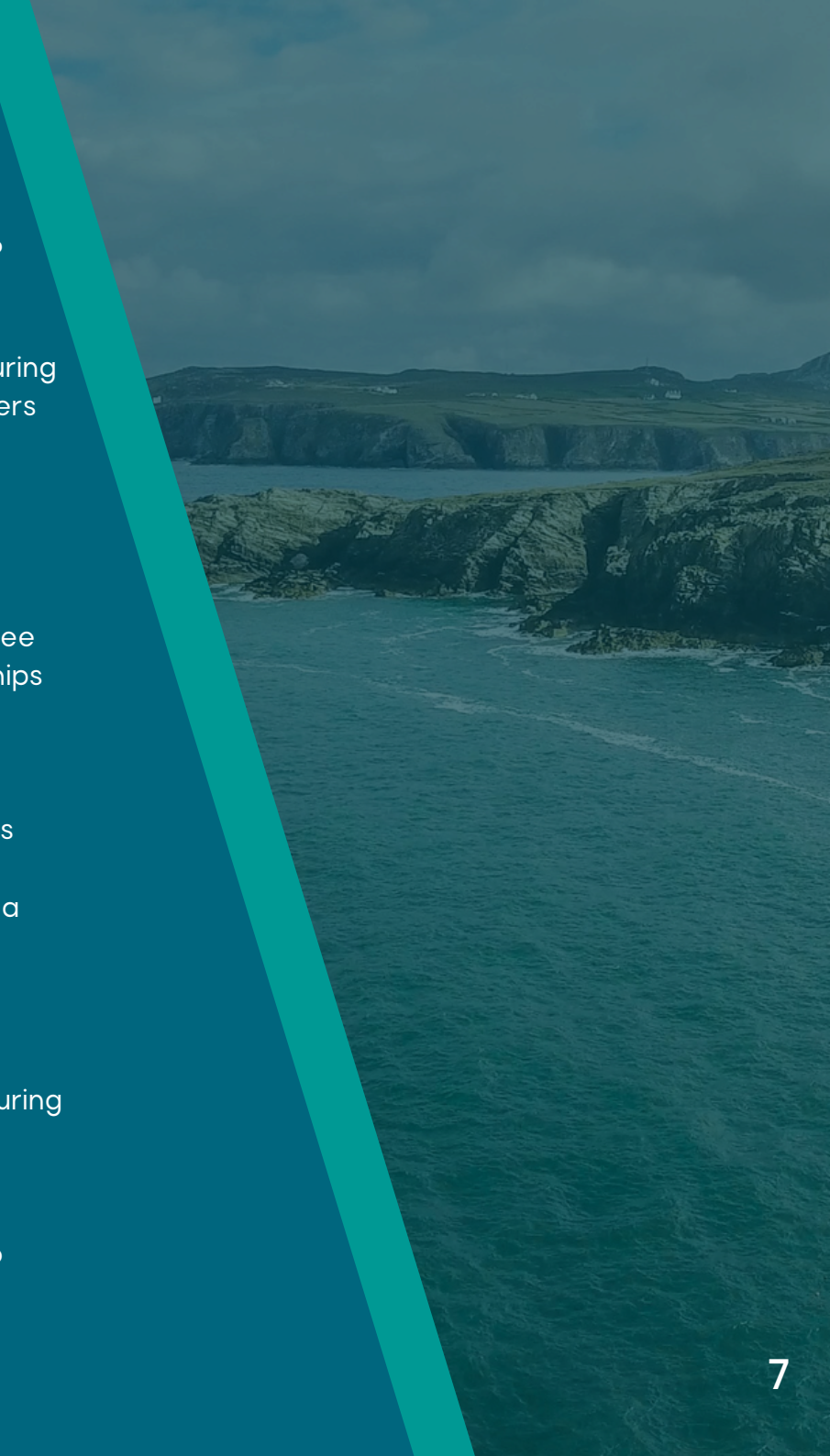
- Develop and implement a communications and engagement approach for the SDP with Members, officers and external stakeholders so that messaging is clear, consistent and supports effective consultation and engagement.
- Build and maintain strong, strategic relationships with Welsh Government, neighbouring Local Authorities, Combined Authorities, and other regional and national stakeholders including infrastructure providers.
- Act as the senior point of contact for external stakeholders engaging with the Strategic Planning Sub-committee, ensuring co-ordinated communication and engagement across local authorities, statutory consultees, key stakeholders, businesses and communities.
- Acting as an advocate for the Ambition North Wales, the Corporate Joint Committee and the region, developing, managing and maintaining effective external relationships at all levels.

4.Leadership of People & Resources

- As part of the senior leadership team, provide clear, visible leadership that supports the development of a high-performing, motivated team culture.
- Lead and role model the values and behaviours of Ambition North Wales, fostering a culture of collaboration, integrity, and excellence.
- Support and develop staff within the team through effective line and matrix management, contributing to the broader leadership of the organisation.
- Responsible for effective management, monitoring and allocation of capital and revenue funding through the SDP and other relevant funding streams including ensuring effective systems and processes are in place for financial management.

5.Additional Duties

- Undertake any other responsibilities commensurate with the seniority of the role to support and where necessary deputise for the Chief Executive and the wider Leadership team in delivering organisational and regional priorities.



Personal Specification

Qualifications

- Relevant qualification at degree level or equivalent professional experience.
- A professional membership, e.g, Membership of the Transport Planning Society (TPS) or accreditation from the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI), Chartered Town Planner (MRTPI), Associate Membership of the Royal Town Planning Institute (AMRTPI), Member of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (MRICS).
- Management qualification or willingness to attain.

Experience, Knowledge and Skills

- Effective leadership, interpersonal and communication skills, including the ability to motivate and inspire others to collaborate and take action.
- Significant experience of leading on development plan preparation, planning policy formulation, stakeholder engagement, public consultation, and Public Examinations.
- Understanding of the North Wales region, including an understanding of the planning, transport and economic challenges and opportunities as well as knowledge of national policies and regulations that impact the relevant sector areas.
- Sufficient seniority and credibility to advise, negotiate and influence all interested parties and decision makers in relation to the content of and justification for the SDP, including securing approvals within complex governance arrangements.
- Significant experience and awareness of working with Elected Members and dealing with politically sensitive issues.
- Excellent written communication skills with the ability to write and produce clear and concise reports.
- Excellent oral communication skills with diverse groups of people, and the ability to deliver key messages confidently and persuasively.
- Experience of programme and project management including risk and dependency management.
- Practical knowledge of procurement methods, and contracts and a sound working knowledge of procurement process and best practice.

Language Requirements

For this role the following requirements are DESIREABLE:

- Listening and Speaking – able to deal with all aspects of the job verbally in a confident manner in both Welsh and English.
- Reading and Understanding – able to use and interpret correctly any information in both Welsh and English from a wide variety of sources in order to deal with all aspects of the post.
- Writing – able to present written information in both Welsh and English with complete confidence using the most appropriate language and style to meet the needs of the reader.

And the following requirement is essential:

- An understanding of the importance of the Welsh Language to the region and a willingness to develop and improve their Welsh language skills

Team Values

We are Ambitious
We strive to deliver the best for North Wales. We are leaders in our fields, opinion formers and influencers, and we challenge conventional thinking. We pursue high standards, aim to be our best, and continuously develop ourselves professionally.

We work Collaboratively
We share knowledge, skills, information and support and ensure to keep colleagues informed. We always help each other, facilitate opportunities for North Wales and recognise that our collective impact is more significant than our individual impact.

We do the right thing
We do the right thing, not what is easy. We challenge unethical behaviour and speak out when things don't feel right. We are respectful, fair and considerate and can be trusted to deliver agreed commitments on time.

We make a difference
We pursue opportunities to make a difference in North Wales. We champion the Welsh language, heritage and culture and support regional charities. We protect the environment and seek opportunities to reduce our footprint.



Core behaviours for all roles

- **Leadership - we all lead by example and are all leaders within our own areas.**
- **Responsibility - we take responsibility for our work, performance and development.**
- **Respect - we respect our colleagues, partners and stakeholders and demonstrate this throughout our work and in how we build effective relationships.**

Join our team

Do you have a passion for North Wales and a desire to see the region grow and deliver on its potential? Are you enthusiastic, committed and a team player?

If so, Ambition North Wales could be the organisation for you.

As a partnership collaboration and partnership working is at the core of what we do as a team. We are looking for a collaborative individual with excellent interpersonal skills who is passionate about delivering for the region and able to develop and maintain relationships across multiple partners to drive forward our work.

While each role within the team has its own focus, you will be expected to contribute to the wider work of the team and the success of the team as a whole. We're looking for team players capable of leading their own areas but also supporting their colleagues to deliver. In return you will find a varied and interesting workload with opportunities to contribute across our portfolio.

Professional and personal development is important to us. The team at Ambition North Wales will provide you with a supportive environment to continue your development with a number of formal and informal development opportunities available. We encourage our team pursue professional development opportunities and are looking for individuals who have the desire to learn and improve.

Some of our roles require Welsh language skills while others do not. However, all team members are expected to recognise the importance of the Welsh language, our culture and heritage and be willing to improving their own language skills with our support.
If this sounds like you, we look forward to hearing from you.

North Wales is an excellent place to live and work, why not play a key role in shaping its future.

Hedd Vaughan-Evans
Portfolio Director
Ambition North Wales



Recruitment Timetable

Closing date — 10am 16/10/2026

Applications need to be received by

Shortlisting — by 22/10/2026

We aim to inform all those shortlisted by this date with details of the assessments and interview date provided

Assessments — by 29/10/2026

Assessments will take place prior to the interview. You will be informed of the details, should you be shortlisted

Interview — 3/11/2026

The exact date and time of interview will be confirmed upon shortlisting

The application process

Please use this link to access the Cyngor Gwynedd's Recruitment portal. You will be required to create an account to submit an application.

Please remember to complete all sections of the form. You are welcome to submit your form in Welsh or English.

Following the closing date an assessment panel will assess your application against the requirements set out in the personal specification. Please make sure your statement covers all essential criteria set out in the personal specification.

Applicants who reach the shortlist will be invited to an interview, details of the interviews will be sent at least a week in advance.

We will ask applicants to complete assessments before the interview (full details will be included within the interview letter).

Please note applications received after the closing date will not be considered.

The Employer

The North Wales Corporate Joint Committee is the employing authority.



Corporate Joint Committees (CJCs) are new regional corporate local government entities with similar powers, duties, governance, and administrative structures to local authorities in Wales.

Four CJCs were established in Wales on 1st April 2021, based on the geographical areas requested by local government and reflecting existing Regional collaborative arrangements. The North Wales Corporate Joint Committee comprises the six Local Authorities in North Wales - Angiesey, Gwynedd, Conwy, Denbigshire, Flintshire, Wrexham as well as the Snowdonia National Park Authority. The North Wales Corporate Joint Committee are known under the brand Ambition North Wales.

At present the Corporate Joint Committee has three specific areas of focus - strategic planning, strategic transport and economic wellbeing.



Benefits

There are several benefits of working for Ambition North Wales, full details can be found here. However, the following is a summary of the key benefits:

Pension scheme

Ambition North Wales operates a Local Government Pension Scheme. Information about the fund can be found on the Gwynedd Pension Fund website.

Annual leave

The annual leave entitlement varies between 21 and 30 days per year - depending on the grade of the post. Staff are also entitled to 8 days leave for bank and public holidays, as well as an additional 3 and a half days.

Special leave

As well as the leave noted above, paid absence may be granted in special circumstances such as moving house, bereavement, attending medical appointments, undertaking public duties and so on.

Work life balance

Ensuring that staff strike a healthy balance between work and home life is very important for Ambition North Wales. Staff can take advantage of the following arrangements:

- Flexible working hours
- Maternity, paternity and adoption leave
- Parental leave and flexible working for parents and carers
- Hybrid working

Training and development

Ambition North Wales recognises the importance of investing in its most important asset - its staff. Every employee can expect:

- A formal induction process and a continuous performance review
- A wide range of internal and external training and development opportunities
- Contribution towards the membership of professional bodies which are relevant to the work.



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